



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** January 26, 2011  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Marin-Sonoma Narrows Project Begins With Tree Removal

**Novato -** The first phase of the Marin-Sonoma Narrows Project gets underway at 9:00 am Thursday, January 27, when crews begin removing a total of 150 trees between Highway 37 and Atherton Avenue. The shoulder on the left hand side of the Atherton Avenue on-ramp to southbound U.S. 101 will be closed to accommodate the tree removal operation.

The tree removal is the first step for the project that will build a new High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane on U.S. Route 101 in Marin County. The northbound lane will run from Highway 37 in the south to Atherton Avenue, while the southbound HOV lane will extend from Rowland Boulevard to Highway 37. The current HOV lanes run from Highway 37 in the north to Highway 1 in the south. Construction of the new lanes will begin this summer, and is expected to last approximately two years.

When construction is finished, the area will be re-landscaped. In addition, 28 new trees will be planted in nearby riparian areas.

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